

Firehouse, Engine Company No. 6 (Independent Fire Company)  
416 Gay Street  
Baltimore  
Baltimore County  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-353

HABS  
MD,  
4-BALT,  
168-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS  
MD,  
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168-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Maryland	COUNTY Baltimore	TOWN OR VICINITY Baltimore
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Firehouse, Engine Company No. 6		HABS NO. MD-353
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE (Independent Fire Company)		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 416 Gay Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1853 (Clarence Forrest, <u>Our Firemen</u> , p.49)		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Reason and Wetherall
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) A Baltimore landmark, one of the few surviving nineteenth century volunteer firehouses of the city.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Gothic Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick bearing walls with cast iron columns.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Two story main block with 5 story tower; 17'x89'x44'; wedge-shaped. For floor plans see HABS measured drawings and field records.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The main block of the building is of red brick laid in a running bond painted brown from the ground to the first floor windows and buff above with brown trim; a small wooden cupola with a molded sheet metal cornice; a hose tower on the roof of the northwest corner of the building. The tower, 105 feet high (see attached data page 2)		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Four brass poles which lead from the second floor bunk room to first floor; second floor supported by cast iron columns arranged in pairs from the southwest and northeast flanking the engine; a small iron circular stair to the second floor.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES 1874 Rusticated reinforcement at the base added 1885 Quarters extended by purchase of house in rear (\$6500) 1904 Building cleaned and renovated		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Fairly poor condition when researched in 1964; still used as firehouse in 1964.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Additional Views: Certificate of Membership for Robert G. Fusselburgh, March 9, 1857 (Peale Museum, Baltimore); colored lithograph showing firehouse Drawing of proposed tower and engine house (1850) (Peale Museum)		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Forrest, Clarence H. <u>Our Firemen</u> , Official History of the Fire Department of the City of Baltimore Together with Biographies and Portraits of Eminent Citizens, Balt: Williams and Wilkens, 1898		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Eleni Silverman Historian, HABS from reports by John Waite, N.P.S. Architect (Aug. 1964)		DATE 3/27/84

Firehouse, Engine Company No. 6  
HABS No. MD-353 (2)

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (CONT'D):

is crowned with machicolations and parapet. The first level of the tower is concrete laid on cast iron which has been scored to simulate dressed stone. The other levels are of brick painted buff with stone, cast iron and sheet metal trim.

The opening for the engine is spanned by an arch, now filled from the spring line with imitation rusticated work in stucco, on which is imposed a large quatrefoil bearing the number 6. The doors are modern.

The second story contains a pair of trefoil arched openings on three sides. The third and fourth stories are similar in design: on each face is a pair of openings separated by a narrow brick pier. Each of the openings is set within a rectangular brick frame. The trefoil arch springs from engaged cast iron colonettes with plain inverted-bell capitals. The fifth story has two floors: a belfry and clock tower. On each face of the belfry is a triple opening similar in detail to the openings below. Around the opening is a blank semicircular arch formed by pilaster strips.